



2700 Steeles Avenue, Unit 2
Vaughan, Ontario Canada, L4K 3C8
www.walshgroup.com

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Industry Leaders Declare Safety Week 2017 a Resounding Success

Walsh Canada Stages Full Program of Activities to Recognize Importance of Workplace Safety

Vaughan, Ontario – May 5, 2017 – Safety Week 2017 was in full swing last week with over 60 construction companies and program sponsors across Canada and the U.S. staging events to promote safety awareness, culture, and leadership.

Walsh Canada was promoting Safety Week on all fronts, with a jam-packed program that featured daily activities on all of its project sites and head office. Further reinforcing Walsh's commitment to safety was a special visit by Walsh Group senior leadership that included Co-Chairman Daniel Walsh, President Sean Walsh, Building Division President Mike Whelan, and Building Division Vice President Dan Regan visiting from Chicago to attend Walsh's events on Monday and Tuesday.

Monday's rainy conditions couldn't dampen Walsh's spirits, as it kicked off Safety Week with a breakfast event at its Etobicoke General Hospital Phase 1 Patient Tower site that was attended by over 180 people, including dignitaries from William Osler Health System, Ministry of Labour (MOL), Ontario General Contractors Association (OGCA), Infrastructure Ontario (IO), Council of Construction Associations, Humber College, Hamilton-Halton Construction Association and the Toronto Construction Association. Fellow competitor Bird Construction, working on the neighbouring site was also in attendance as Walsh Canada Vice President Craig Lesurf maintains that safety is not proprietary. The event featured speeches from Walsh Canada Vice President Craig Lesurf, Ontario Minister of Labour Kevin Flynn, William Osler Health System Vice President Ann Ford, IO Senior Vice President Lawrence Quinn, and Rob Ellis from League of Champions and MySafeWork. Rob Ellis shared a moving story with the audience about the loss of his teenage son to a workplace accident 18 years ago and stressed the importance of workers looking out for one another and holding their employers accountable for providing a safe work environment.

Monday afternoon was highlighted by a lunch event at its Borden Enterprise Data Centre site at CFB Borden, with over 125 in attendance that included dignitaries from the Canadian Armed Forces, Defence Construction Canada, MOL, and Shared Services Canada. Words of encouragement were shared by Lesurf, CFB Borden Major Craig Crawley, National Health and Safety Coordinator at Defence Construction Canada Scott McRae and Walsh Group Co-Chairman Daniel Walsh. Major Crawley shared his construction safety experiences from working abroad with the Canadian Armed Forces and congratulated the project team for achieving zero lost time injuries on the project to date.

Tuesday was highlighted by a southern-style barbecue lunch at the Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant. City of Toronto dignitaries were among the 220 in attendance while Lesurf, Senior Project Manager Rick



Hirschegger, and President Sean Walsh speaking offering words of inspiration on behalf of the Walsh Group. The event also included special guest speaker Bill Whelan, who shared his story of how a major workplace accident 18 years ago changed his life and he encouraged workers in attendance to be more vigilant in identifying hazards in their work environment and making sure they have the training and tools needed to do their jobs safely.

Wednesday's signature event was a lunch held at Credit Valley Hospital that had over 185 in attendance, including dignitaries from IO, Trillium Health Partners, City of Mississauga, and OGCA. The event featured speeches from Lesurf and IO Senior Vice President Lawrence Quinn. On the stage Walsh also presented a green hardhat to labourer Joseph Baba, as part of Walsh's Yellow Hardhat program, which requires new young workers to wear yellow hardhats so they can be easily identified by other workers on site and monitored more closely to reinforce safe work habits. Baba achieved the requisite 12 weeks of safe work and associated training to graduate from the program.

Wednesday was kicked off with a breakfast at Humber Treatment Plant with over 60 attendees, including dignitaries from the City of Toronto. Lesurf and Senior Project Superintendent Ezzio DiVona congratulated workers on their safe work performance to date and encouraged them to look out for one another when working on site.

Thursday's activities were highlighted by a lunch event held at the TTC Pioneer Village Subway Station site with over 300 people in attendance. The event featured speeches by Lesurf, Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension Program Manager Keith Sibley, and Infrastructure Health and Safety Association (IHSA) CEO and President Enzo Garritano.

The week was concluded by a lunch and safety huddle held at Walsh Canada's head office, with all employees invited to attend.

All events involved co-promotion with the League of Champions, an OGCA initiative that recognizes organizations that demonstrate a commitment to safety leadership and culture. To demonstrate their commitment, all event attendees were asked to sign their name on the Jersey of Courage. Walsh also provided a commitment board on which attendees traced their hand and wrote why safety is important to them, keeping with Safety Week 2017's theme of hand safety and the motto, *"It's in our hands."*

"Walsh Canada has a vibrant safety culture that is clearly demonstrated by the time and resources committed by the organization and our employees this week," says Lesurf. "I am very proud to be a part of such a dedicated group of individuals who share a common passion for safety"

In addition to the main events previously described, Walsh Canada project sites staged activities throughout every day of the week that included contests, safety stand downs, safety drills, as well as construction tool and product demonstrations.

As an example, the Humber Treatment Plant project team organized an axe throwing contest for prizes, with proceeds donated to the Threads of Life, a non-profit organization with the goal of preventing



future workplace tragedies by telling their stories and making sure everyone understands the importance of why workplace safety.

The Pioneer Village Subway Station project team staged a mock rescue performed by the City of Vaughan Fire Department. Walsh Project Coordinator Melaney Stanberry volunteered to be the “injured” subject while the Fire Department safely lifted Stanberry from the of the bus terminal roof and rappelled her down to the ground. The project site also staged a golf putting challenge with proceeds going to MySafeWork, a non-profit organization dedicated to educating young workers about workplace safety. A similar golf putting challenge was also held at the Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant site.

This year all Walsh site staff distributed Safety Week raffle tickets to workers on site when they observed safe behavior as a form of positive reinforcement. The more a worker demonstrated safe behavior, the more tickets they would receive to increase their chances of winning a prize. Another company-wide initiative included s Photo Contest where subcontractors and Walsh staff capture moments from Safety Week activities, with the best photos being rewarded.

“This year we organized a broad range of activities to celebrate our achievements in safety performance and culture,” says Lesurf. “More importantly, we promoted safety awareness and communicated to our industry stakeholders that we must maintain a high level of focus to keep raising the bar for safety so that we can get to the point where absolutely everyone in our industry goes home safe at the end of each day. Our hope is that Safety Week’s accomplishments can be leveraged every week of the year.”

Safety Week 2017 concluded on Friday May 5th and soon Lesurf and the Safety Week Executive Committee will begin planning to make next year’s event even more successful. For more information on how your organization can get involved, visit www.constructionsafetyweek.com.

About Walsh Canada

Walsh Canada is part of the Walsh Group, a 119 year-old general contracting, construction management and design-build company providing services in a vast array of building and heavy civil infrastructure across North America. Walsh currently serves the institutional, commercial, industrial, wastewater treatment, and transportation sectors in Canada where they have amassed a portfolio that includes 10 projects, highlighted by the \$280 million Women’s College Hospital Capital Redevelopment, \$200 million TTC Pioneer Village Subway Station, \$150 million Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant P Building and Odour Control Upgrades, \$170 million Etobicoke General Hospital Phase 1 Patient Tower, and Enterprise Data Centre Borden 5MW Expansion (construction cost confidential).

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For more information, contact:

Jack Leonetti, Marketing Manager

Walsh Canada

Office: 905.532.0662 x 233 • Cell: 647.465.7251

Email: jleonetti@walshgroup.com